years or propose to make provision for that;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(h) the effective steps being taken by the Union Government for providing necessary basic amenities in slum 'Katras' of old Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 1985-86.

(c) and (d) No Board has been constituted by the Government so far. The year-wise expenditure made for maintenance work in the Old Delhi city area is as under

1994-95	Rs. 253.82 lacs
1995-96	Rs. 358.66 lacs
1996-97	Rs. 187.85 lacs

(e) to (h) The maintenance and provision of basic amenities in the Slum Katras of Old Delhi come under the purview of the Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi. The GNCTD has reported that the Slum & JJ Deptt. of MCD is implementing an approved plan scheme of Structural Improvement and Rehabilitation of Katras which has been formulated for providing repairs to the dengerous properties under the management & Control of Slum & JJ Deptt. The details in respect of financial assistance/ grant for the last three years as under :

Year	Financial Assistance/Grant
1994-95	Rs. 100 lacs
1995-96	Rs. 199.68 lacs
1996-97	Rs. 200 lacs

As far as providing basic civic amenities in Old Delhi is concerned. MCD is providing such basic amenities in this area. In addition, S&JJ Deptt. of MCD is also extending such basic amenities in the Notified Slum Areas in the Old Delhi under the approved plan scheme of Environmental Improvement in urban slums.

[English]

Taxation Powers to Panchayati Raj

3986. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to give taxation powers to Panchayati Raj Institutions to bolster their resources;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the issue of resources for local bodies will assume importance by this increased role; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. However, Article 243 H of the Constitution provides that the Legislature of a State may, by law, authorise a Panchayat to levy, collect and appropriate such taxes, duties, tolls and fees in accordance with such procedure and subject to such limits, as may be specified in the law.

Joint Venture in Power Sector

3987. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Power Ministry has decided to encourage Central and State Government power companies to go in for joint ventures with multinational;

(b) the total number of power projects singed during 1995, and the total power to be generated after the completion of these projects;

(c) the countries with whom these power projects are being set up; and

(d) whether all the power projects have been cleared and started their work ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

GEO-Stationary Satellite

3988. SHRI NITISH BHARADWAJ : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have stationed its own Geo-stationary satellite in Space;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether stationing of a Geo-stationary satellite is likely to give tremendous boost to our industry; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not having made an effort in this direction so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.